

*Quarterly Journal of the
Central States Numismatic Society*

the centinel



Spring 1992
Volume 40, Number 1
Minneapolis Convention May 1-3

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Official Publication/Central States Numismatic Society

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SPRING 1992

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Central States



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Articles for *The Centinel* to:.....The Editor
Advertising inquiries and copy to:.....The Advertising Manager

Presidential Commentary

Marjorie Hendershott

I hope you have your plans all made for Minneapolis. It's been quite a few years since we were in that city and I am really looking forward to the CSNS 53rd Convention. It will be interesting to see how this year's election for Board members turns out.

This issue of *The Centinel* marks another milestone for me — my last message to CSNS members. I first wrote one of these messages in 1976, after being elected Secretary-Treasurer. What a long time ago that seems! Upon assuming that office, my association with this great hobby became an all-consuming interest. I have had the opportunity to meet some wonderful people, travel all around our 13 state area, and have worked with some really dedicated people — both Board members and others.

I think all-in-all the CSNS Board works together as well as any group of 20 people ever could. Probably because everyone seems to really have the hobby and the good of the Society at heart. We have had very few “me-first” people on these Boards. Even our differences are worked out in a friendly fashion. My hope for CSNS is to always have such a good group to guide the organization, for that will ensure growth and a strong club.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to a lot of people, and I'll probably miss someone special if I start naming names. However, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the Board members, and especially my right hand — Leonard Owen. All the members of all the Boards I have served with also deserve recognition, and a special thanks to people who have hosted CSNS in their cities. Again, I can't name them all — but they will be remembered.

Have a great time at the Convention and do take time to say “hello.”

Marjorie Hendershott, President

Central States Numismatic Society 53rd Anniversary Convention

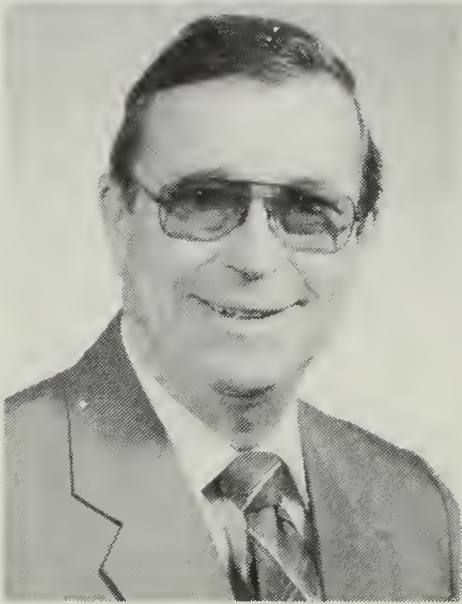
Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 1, 2, and 3, 1992

PNG Day — Thursday, April 30, 1992

A Message from the Secretary

Robert "Bob" E. Douglas



I'm not ready for convention yet! Winter is not over (the weather man says). However, Karen Jach, our fine Editor, has informed me I owe her a message for *The Centinel*. Oh well. I had better get my act together.

Fall and Winter seem to have melted together. I have not been able to attend any numismatic events as my mother-in-law's health deteriorated in October and November. Marilyn and I found a retirement home for her and she agreed it was the place to be.

The two weeks following that decision were concentrated on packing, making address change notices, finding a realtor and all the other good stuff to be associated with moving.

We moved my mother-in-law to Cedar Rapids on December 16th. Her health gave out suddenly and we lost her January 6th.

A week later my mother moved — so into the moving mode again. Arriving home we again moved my mother-in-law's things from the retirement home to my home. My house has extra furniture everywhere as well as a stuffed enclosed patio awaiting spring for a garage sale. I could almost be qualified as an antique dealer at this point in time, except I don't want to be in that business!

Back to numismatics. A fine convention is approaching fast in Minneapolis. Notice all the great events held there this year? Another is coming April 30 through May 3. Dick Grinolds had all the forms in the last *Centinel* that we need — hotel information, exhibit applications, a schedule in this *Centinel*, and registration forms. Please fill them out as appropriate and get them into the mail. Time's a wastin'! If you have never attended a spring CSNS convention, you are going to be amazed by the following — the size of the bourse area (approximately 350 dealers), booths for numismatic press with lots of free handouts, terrific exhibits in great quantities, and many educational programs to attend given by the top individuals of numismatics. This is an opportunity to take advantage of, attend and be much wiser and informed, as well as entertained.

Long term planning should be made for the fall CSNS convention being planned by Paul Padgett for the city of Cincinnati, September 18-20, 1992. This is a much smaller convention, more along the lines of a state convention with all the events of the spring convention. If you cannot make the Minneapolis convention and you live in the Cincinnati area, plan to attend and meet your new CSNS Board members. We are always looking forward to meeting our CSNS members and listening to your comments and ideas.

For those who can't join us in the above conventions, plan to attend the spring convention in Rosemont, Illinois (near O'Hare airport in Chicago) on May 13-16, 1993. Kevin Foley is in charge and planning is well underway. Paul Padgett and Fred Oliver were to handle the convention, but extenuating circumstances brought about Kevin taking over for them. The central location in the CSNS area should be convenient for a very well attended convention.

Rich Hartzog has a new CSNS token planned for the Minneapolis convention very similar to the one used at the ANA convention. Look for them at the convention from all Board members in gold jackets.

Thanks to several people who read *The Centinel* from cover to cover. I located several members I had lost current addresses for. This sure helps me out. I hate to lose a member for the lack of a good address. I know, it is very easy to forget to remember CSNS when you move! See the current list following this message. Help, help!

By this time you should have received your 1992 dues notices. I plan to be available at the CSNS table to accept payments at your leisure. If I am not there any Board member will help you out. How about converting to a Life membership? An investment of \$100 will surely bring you a life of pleasure with your many numismatic friends. How about paying two or more years in advance to make it easier to take care of for awhile? I will accept \$10, \$15, \$20 or more to pay in advance. Of course, there is no problem with the annual fee of \$5. Don't forget, I had to drop approximately 250 members for lack of dues payment. I hate to lose good friends because you forgot!

See you at a convention!

Robert (Bob) E. Douglas

Phone 319/364-0706, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

ADVERTISING RATES

Beginning with the Spring 1988 issue,
rates will be as follows:

	One Issue	Four Issue Contract
Eighth Page	\$15.00	\$50.00
Quarter Page	25.00	80.00
Half Page	40.00	130.00
Full Page	70.00	240.00

**Deadline for copy will be
February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.**

Membership Applications

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

REGULAR AND JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

R6466	Wayne Little	Littleton, NH
R6467	Kentucky State Numismatic Association	Louisville, KY
R6468	William Mierkiewicz	Troy, MI
R6469	Dave Jones.....	Louisville, KY
R6470	Louisville Coin Club	Louisville, KY
R6471	Jerry J. Kuziak	Belleville, MI
J6472	Steven Roach.....	Livonia, MI
R6473	Steve Marr.....	Grosse Pointe, MI
R6474	Kenneth Darrell.....	Ada, MI
R6475	James J. Reeves.....	Dearborn Heights, MI
R6476	Bill Bagwell.....	Iowa City, IA
R6477	Mark Astroff.....	Beverly Farms, MA
R6478	Cedrick Barry.....	Silver Spring, MD

LIFE MEMBERS

L518	Thomas J. Hammond.....	North Platte, NE
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CSNS HONOR ROLL

The following members have attained continuous CSNS membership for the number of years shown during the period February 1992 through April 1992.

45 YEARS

L063	Arthur M. Kagin.....	Des Moines, IA
L064	Paul Kagin.....	Des Moines, IA

40 YEARS

L060	William B. Higginbotham	Overland Park
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35 YEARS

L086	Ray O. Lefman	Kansas City, MO
L155	Heart of American Numismatic Association	Overland Park

30 YEARS

R1382	Russell E. Konig.....	Milwaukee, WI
R1401	William J. Spencer	Racine, WI
R1397	James Latzel	Richfield
R1419	Robert R. Johnson	San Francisco, CA
L099	Sidney W. Smith	Miami, FL
R1429	Irene L. Blanchette	Oshkosh, WI
R1430	John N. Rowe III.....	Dallas, TX
R1477	Fred Carson	Albert Lea
L122	Grover Criswell.....	Ft. McCoy
L103	Donald J. Urchel.....	Chicago, IL

R1476	Fabian Martini	Mesa
L157	L. Lamar Davis.....	Edna

25 YEARS

R1959	LeRoy (Jim) Kaczor	Champaign, IL
R1963	Andrew P. Oberbillig	Chicago, IL

20 YEARS

L135	Stephen Tebo	Boulder, CO
R2360	William F. Wright	Reno, NV
R2361	John T. Abbott	Birmingham, AL
R2364	Mike G. Brownlee.....	Dallas, TX
R2370	Malcom Varner.....	Alhambra
R2384	Roger J. Radtke	Oak Creek

DECEASED MEMBERS

The Board and membership of the Society join in extending our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following members, who passed away recently.

R4438	Robert Meyerink	Byron Center, MI
R2275	William E. Seay	Bartonville, IL

LOST MEMBERS

Can you help the Secretary find them?

Steven L. Goldsmith	New York, NY
Chris Hsu	Flushing, NY
Cruldy Lai	Flushing, NY
Kou Mukai	Flushing, NY
Dorian Wu.....	Flushing, NY
Eleanor Reszneki	Encino, CA
Mark Feld	Irvine, CA
Jayne E. Bedsaul	Kansas City, KS
John Schuck	Naples, FL
Margie Shaffer.....	Springfield, PA
Maureen Fleischman	Santa Anna, CA
Ed Segal.....	Kansas City, MO
Larry Berkovits.....	Brooklyn, NY
Kenneth Darrell.....	Ada, MI
Dan North.....	Pensacola, FL

Future CSNS Conventions

1992 — April 30-May 3.....	Minneapolis,Minnesota
Dick Grinolds, P.O. Box 18002, Minneapolis, MN 55418	
1992 — September 18-20	Cincinnati, Ohio
Paul Padget, 716 W. Wyoming Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45215	
1993 — May 13-16	Chicago, Illinois
Kevin Foley, P.O. Box 573, Milwaukee, WI 53201	
1994 — April 7-10.....	Indianapolis, Indiana
1995 — April 27-30	Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Two Unique U.S. Coin Collecting Guides Available from Krause Publications

IOLA, WI — According to Webster, “unique” means “being without a like or equal.” And that fits to a “T” the two new United States/North American coin collecting guides offered from Krause Publications (700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001), America’s largest hobby publisher.

1992 North American Coins and Prices (448-page, softbound, \$12.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, U.S. addresses) is truly a “price guide plus.” It’s that “plus” that separates it from other coin price guides that dot the hobby landscape.

1992 North American Coins and Prices, edited by Arlyn G. Sieber, the editor of hobby weekly *Numismatic News*, is, in reality, a step-by-step guide to pricing and collecting the coins of the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

It features an extensive “how to” section that will properly arm the novice and intermediate collector for a journey into the coin collecting hobby. The price guide, compiled by the hobby’s most knowledgeable market watchers is an accurate listing of coin values that will benefit anyone who needs to know what their coins, or ones they are considering for purchase, are worth. Values are listed in up to the five most common grades. As an added bonus, *1992 North American Coins and Prices* presents price guides for all North American coins, including Canada and Mexico as well as the U.S.

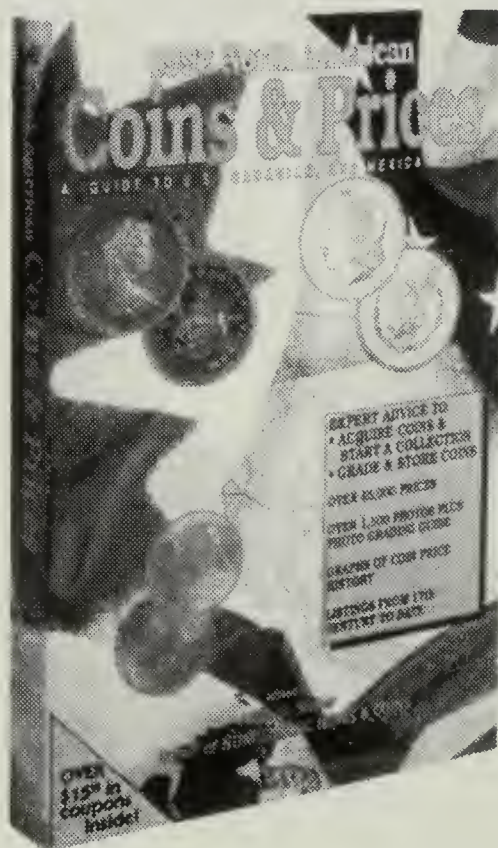
1992 North American Coins and Prices breaks new ground by offering three price guides in one. And it forges even further ahead of the pack by being the price guide to incorporate a significant amount of useful “How To” information to help new collectors.

This informative section walks the inexperienced collector through the hobby, stopping to point out the easiest and safest routes to successful collecting.

Collectors will journey back in time on a fascinating tour through several hundred years of coin history, pausing along the way to witness the actual minting process, and uncover the circumstances that helped conceive many of today’s most collectible coins. In the present, hobby experts guide collectors through the buying process, pointing out the finer points of dealing on the bourse floor, at shops and through the mail. The subtleties of grading — how to determine an MS65 from an MS64 — are also painted in clear detail. And, the experience of more than several hundred years of cumulative collecting experience offers solid investing tips, plus a revealing look at what numismatic associations offer the up and coming collector.

If the words of experienced hobbyists help chart the successful path to collecting in *1992 North American Coins and Prices*, then in *Striking Impressions* (208-page, softbound, \$9.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, U.S. addresses) a picture is definitely worth a thousand words.

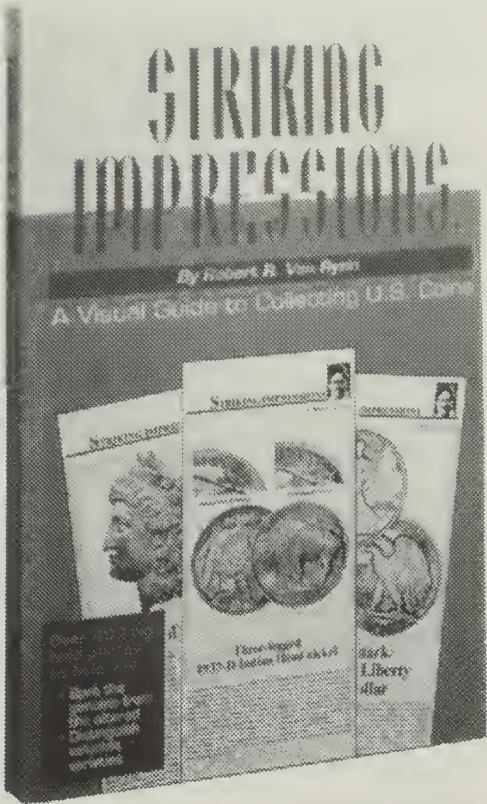
Primarily a visual approach to identifying U.S. coins, *Striking Impressions*, written by



award-winning *Nunismatic News* staff writer Robert R. Van Ryzin is based on his popular column of the same name.

This oft-requested new book features type listings and descriptions of all regular-issue U.S. coins, from, 1792 to date, complete with numerous photos — many “larger than life” — that point out specifics of coin identification, such as how to tell a genuine 3-legged 1937-D Buffalo nickel from those produced by altering normal 1937-D coins; or how to distinguish the more valuable 1960 small-date cent from its large-date counterpart.

This book helps collectors more easily understand the sometimes confusing terminology employed in the coin hobby. Along with regular-issue coins, Van Ryzin also presents top varieties and rarities, plus more than 90 “Striking Impressions,” with slight reformatting, as they appeared in past issues of *Nunismatic News*. The wealth of collecting information between the pages of *Striking Impressions* guarantees it will be the kind of book that’s referred to again and again.



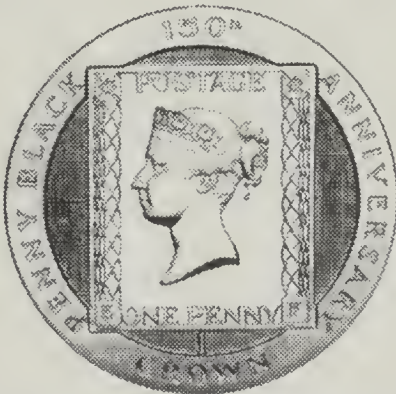
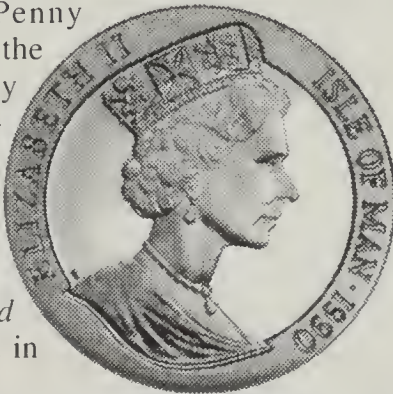
Isle of Man Wins Top Award for '90 Coin of the Year

The Isle of Man’s Penny Black crown was named the 1990 Coin of the Year by *World Coin News*, the bi-weekly newspaper for world coin collectors.

“It was the overwhelming choice of the judges,” Albert “Bo” Smith, *World Coin News* publisher, said in announcing the results.

“In the first round of balloting, it took top honors in the Best Crown and Most Innovative Coinage Concept categories,” Smith said, “and it just got stronger in the second round.”

Don Gelling, Minister of the Isle of Man Treasury, which authorized the coin, was notified of the results of the ballots cast by the 67 member international panel of COTY judges.



The Penny Black crown has a nominal legal-tender value of 25 pence. It was struck in copper-nickel alloy with a special “pearl black” finish created by the Pobjoy Mint and first used on this coin.

The crown marks the 150th anniversary of the first adhesive postage stamp, which was issued by the United Kingdom. It is dated 1990, as were all of the coins eligible for COTY consideration. Coins are always judged one year after issuance so that nations which do not cut off dated mintages each December 31 may be considered. Also, some nations use other than calendar year systems for coinage dating. This explains the seeming two-year delay in recognizing winners.

The COTY award was created by *World Coin News* and Krause Publications of Iola, Wisconsin, U.S.A., as a yearly competition among the world’s mints and central banks to improve and beautify coinage. It is the numismatic equivalent of Hollywood’s Oscar or television’s Emmy. Krause celebrates 40 years of publishing this year, and is well-known in hobby circles as publisher of the best-selling *Standard Catalog of World Coins*.

Presentation of the annual award is made at a location appropriate for the winner. For example, when Finland won the COTY for 1985-dated issues, the Finnish embassy in Washington, D.C., was the ceremony site. The 1987 award was given to the British Royal Mint at the United Kingdom’s consulate in New York City.

Arrangements have not yet been made for the 1990 award.

In addition to giving the top award at the ceremony, recognition is given to the winners of each of the eight COTY categories, which were determined by the first round of voting. In 1990 contest, six other coins achieved top category honors.

A nation that no longer exists, East Germany, took first place in the Most Historically Significant Coin category with its 20-mark Brandenburg Gate issue.

A government that has ceased to function, that of the former Soviet Union, won in the Best Gold category with its Peter the Great 25-ruble piece. This coin is made of palladium, which along with platinum, is put into the gold classification for award purposes. As a further distinction, the 25-ruble is the first palladium coin to win a category in COTY balloting. This is also the first time the USSR has won a COTY award.

Named Best Trade Coin is a New Zealand 50-cent piece marking the 150th anniversary of nationhood.

The Isle of Man was recognized again with an entry in the Most Popular Coin category. Its silver crown featuring the American shorthair cat, otherwise known as the “alley cat,” won here.

The Best Silver Coin award went to a French 100-franc coin for Charlemagne.

Finland took the Most Artistic award for its 100-markkaa piece honoring veterans.

The Coin of the Year competition has been held each year since it was introduced for issues dated 1982. The two-round judging process is done by an international panel of mint, treasury and central-bank officials, leaders of major numismatic organizations, museum curators, engravers, writers, marketers, and individual experts.

Previous top COTY winners include: United States 1982, silver George Washington half dollar; United States 1983 silver Olympics \$1; Canada 1984 gold Jacques Cartier \$100; Finland 1985 silver Kalevala 500-markkaa; United States 1986 gold Statue of Liberty \$5; Great Britain 1987 gold Britannia 100-pounds; Albania 1988 silver Railroad Tunnel 50-leke; and France 1989 copper-nickel Eiffel Tower five-franc.

European nations lead North American COTY winners five to four after the completion of the ninth Coin of the Year contest.

53rd Annual

**Central States
Numismatic Society
Convention**

May 1-2-3, 1992

Professional Numismatists Guild Day

Thursday, April 30

Minneapolis Convention Center

Grant Street and Third Avenue South

350 Booth Bourse

Educational

Exhibits



RARCOA

Auction

Free Admission

Dick Grinolds, General Chairman

1992 CSNS Convention

Box 18053

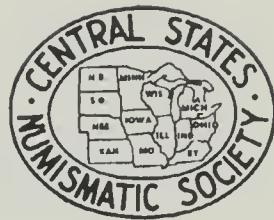
Minneapolis, MN 55418

612/331-8246

Hosted by Northwest Coin Club



Preliminary Convention Schedule



Central States Numismatic Society 53rd Anniversary Convention

Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 1, 2, and 3, 1992

PNG Day — Thursday, April 30, 1992

The following tentative schedule of events for the 53rd Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society is presented here as a convenience for potential convention attendees. Because of early printing deadlines it is probable that some changes and many additions will be made to the schedule prior to the actual dates of the convention. Please consult the official program, available at the convention itself, for final times, rooms, and details. All events are at the convention center unless otherwise noted.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 3:00 p.m. | Security room opens to dealers with tables |
| 5:00 p.m. | PNG Board Meeting |
| 10:00 p.m. | Security room closes |

THURSDAY, APRIL 30 — PNG DAY

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | Security room opens to PNG dealers only |
| 8:00 a.m. | Bourse room opens to PNG dealers |
| 9:00 a.m. | Security rooms opens to all dealers and CSNS badge holders |
| 10:00 a.m. | PNG Day bourse opens to public |
| 10:00 a.m. | RARCOA Auction lot viewing opens |
| 10:00 a.m. | Exhibitors may place educational exhibits |
| 4:30 p.m. | Registration closes — no further public entry to bourse room |
| 5:00 p.m. | Bourse room closes |
| 5:00 p.m. | Auction lot viewing closes |
| 6:00 p.m. | PNG general membership meeting |
| 7:00 p.m. | Bourse room opens for CSNS dealer set up |
| 9:00 p.m. | Bourse room closes |
| 10:00 p.m. | Security room closes |

The Central States Convention hospitality room will be open May 1 through 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

7:00 a.m.	Security room opens to dealers with tables
8:00 a.m.	Bourse room opens to dealers with tables
9:00 a.m.	RARCOA Auction lot viewing opens
9:50 a.m.	Ribbon cutting ceremony
10:00 a.m.	Bourse and exhibits open to public
11:00 a.m.	Spouses luncheon bus leaves
12:00 a.m.	All exhibits must be in place
1:00 p.m.	City tour bus leaves
3:00 p.m.	CSNS Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.	Registration closes, no further public entry to bourse room
6:30 p.m.	RARCOA Auction lot viewing closes
7:00 p.m.	Bourse and exhibit room closes
7:30 p.m.	Security room closes

SATURDAY, MAY 2

8:30 a.m.	CSNS Board breakfast — Hyatt Hotel
9:00 a.m.	Bourse room opens to dealers with tables
9:00 a.m.	Security room opens
9:00 a.m.	RARCOA auction lot viewing opens
10:00 a.m.	Bourse and exhibits opens to public
11:00 a.m.	ANA District representatives meeting
1:00 p.m.	CSNS Educational Forum
3:00 p.m.	CSNS General Membership meeting
5:30 p.m.	Registration closes
6:00 p.m.	Bourse and exhibit room closes
6:30 p.m.	Security room closes
7:00 p.m.	CSNS cocktail hour (cash bar)
8:00 p.m.	CSNS Banquet

SUNDAY, MAY 3

8:30 a.m.	CSNS Board breakfast — Hyatt Hotel
8:00 a.m.	Security room opens
9:00 a.m.	Bourse room opens to dealers with tables
10:00 a.m.	Bourse and exhibits open to public
3:00 p.m.	Registration closes
3:30 p.m.	Bourse room closes
6:00 p.m.	Security room closes
	53rd Anniversary Convention Closes

MONDAY, MAY 4

6:00 a.m.	Security room opens
10:00 a.m.	Security room closes — all items must be claimed

CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 53rd ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

**May 1, 2, and 3, 1992
PNG Day — Thursday, April 30, 1992**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

The 1992 Central States Numismatic Society's 53rd Annual Convention will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 1, 2, and 3, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Professional Numismatists Guild Day will be Thursday, April 30.

Rooms have been blocked at three hotels located near the convention site.

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
On Nicollet Mall
1300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612/370-1234
Rate: Single — \$95.00, Double — \$95.00

Park Inn
Minneapolis Downtown
1313 Nicolett Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612/332-0371
Rate: Single — \$72.00, Double — \$82.00

Hotel Luxeford Suites
1101 LaSalle Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612/332-6800
Rate: Single — \$95.00, Double — \$95.00

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing will be at the Minneapolis, Minnesota Convention. Creative and educational displays will debut at this event with the "Billion Dollar Exhibit."

See you in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 30 through May 3, 1992.



is proud to conduct the Official
Central States Numismatic
Society Auction in Minneapolis
April 30-May 3, 1992.

We are presently looking for
consignments, either collections
or individual items.

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commission rates and

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PNG and PCDA Announce Joint Show

Two of the largest numismatic dealers' groups in the country are joining forces to conduct a combined rare coin and paper money show next fall.

The Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc. and the Professional Currency Dealers Association have announced plans for a joint show November 13-15, 1992, in St. Louis.

"This is a partnership made in heaven," said Ronald J. Gillio of Santa Barbara, California, president of the 300 member PNG. "We compliment each other; coin dealers and currency dealers. One of the PNG members, Lynn F. Knight, is President of PCDA."

The PCDA has conducted an annual paper money show since 1986, a year after the association was founded.

"Our membership is enthusiastic about this partnership and supports it wholeheartedly," said Kevin Foley, PCDA secretary and bourse chairman. "The joint venture with PNG will be a significant numismatic event that will attract collectors from across the country."

Foley estimated there will be more than 200 bourse tables at the 1992 show to be held at the Cervantes Convention Center in downtown St. Louis.

The Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc. was founded in 1955 and now has more than 300 members in 35 states and nine foreign countries. For additional information about the show, contact PNG Executive Director Paul L. Koppenhaver, P.O. Box 430, Van Nuys, California 91408, telephone 818/781-1764.

Central States Numismatic Society Issues Tokens at 53rd Anniversary Convention Minneapolis, Minnesota

A series of tokens have been made by CSNS and will be given away each day at the 53rd Anniversary Convention in Minneapolis, MN. A different token will be available at the Secretary's table each day and also at the banquet.

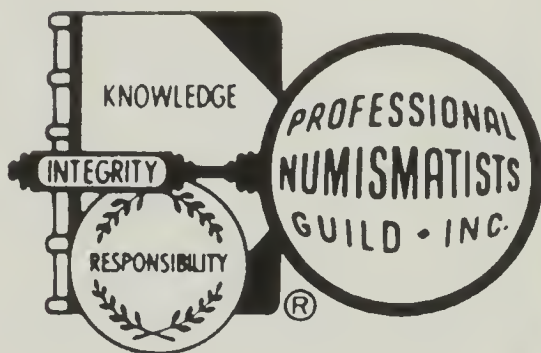
A similar promotion by CSNS at the ANA Centennial Convention in Chicago last August was successful, with all tokens given out daily. Interested collectors are advised to see the Secretary early each day for their free token.

In addition to the tokens available Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and at the banquet, a fifth token will be available only in the five piece set. In celebration of the 53rd Anniversary Convention, 53 sets will be available before the convention and 53 sets at the convention.

The set of five tokens is \$6.50 by mail, \$5.00 at the convention. The fifth token is good for \$53.00 (one day only)!

Orders should be directed to: Rich Hartzog, P.O. Box 4142, Rockford, IL 61110, phone 815/226-0771.

Don't Miss PNG Day



Thursday, April 30, 1992

*Preceding the Central States Numismatic
Society's 53rd Anniversary Convention in*

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Doors Open at 10:00 a.m.

Pick up your invitation from any PNG
member or at the door. Admission is free.

The PNG Executive Director and Board extend a hearty thank you to the Central States Numismatic Society for the opportunity to again work with you on this exciting convention. Best wishes for a truly successful show.

Mikion, Considius, Henry, Scott, and Their Money: An Illustration of Three Monetary Systems

Scott T. Rottinghaus

Mikion was destined to be a sailor. He had grown up in Athens which was constantly at war or conflict with the Peloponnesian League, headed by Sparta.¹ When his duty as an Athenian called him to join the expedition to Sicily, Mikion, an enthusiastic and patriotic young man, was quick to volunteer. Indeed, all of Athens was enthusiastic about the Sicilian expedition, which included 100 Athenian ships.² Mikion would be leaving for Sicily in two days, so he decided to take a walk and say goodbye to some of his friends before he assumed his new job of rowing a ship in the Athenian navy.

Before he left home, Mikion counted his money.³ Placing it all in his hand, he saw that he had about two drachms. "Six obols make a drachm," he thought, "and I have seven little coins other than the drachm." Mikion was familiar enough with money to recognize his drachm, which weighed over four grams, but the tiny coins, all weighing at or less than a gram, were almost indistinguishable from one another by sight. All Athenian money of the time was silver, so minuscule coins had to be utilized for change. Mikion couldn't remember the subtle differences in the designs that distinguished the coins, so he was happy with his estimate of two drachms. If Mikion would have handled a lot of money, he would have realized that he had one drachm, two trihemioobols, one obol, four hemioobols, which just happened to add up to his original estimate. "I'll be able to earn this much money in two days as a sailor," he told himself. In peacetime rowers were paid only about two obols a day, but Athens was at war so a sailor's daily wage was increased to a drachm.⁴

With those happy thoughts of the end of his poverty, Mikion put all his coins under his tongue and set out for his favorite eating and drinking establishment. On the street, he met a friend of his named Aristion, who was also joining the navy. As they were walking, they saw a small bag lying in the street.

"What do you think that is?" asked Aristion.

"Let's find out," answered Mikion, picking up the bag. Opening it, his eyes fell on a wondrous sight.

"Tetradrachms!" exclaimed Aristion.

"We're rich," answered Mikion, trying to hold in his excitement. The bag contained twenty-seven tetradrachms, each a nice, heavy coin worth four drachms. "Somebody should have used a safer way of carrying his money," said Mikion, moving his tongue over his now insignificant small change, safely stashed in his mouth.

"That's his loss and our gain," answered Aristion. "Now, what are we going to do with this money?"

"Spend it!"

"That's what I had in mind!" So the two no-longer-poor Athenians continued on their way. Stopping by a tailor's shop, they each bought new cloaks of good quality. These were priced at twenty drachms each, but that sum was quickly produced by the two young men. They then decided that they ought to have shoes, so, for the first time in their lives, Mikion and Aristion wore good shoes, which set them back eight drachms for a pair.⁵

The two then decided to eat a good meal, something that had previously meant a salted

fish and a small measure of wine, each for an obol. But today, Mikion and Aristion would eat meat, a rare luxury for fifth-century Athenians. They spent over a drachm each on their dinner. They then got thoroughly drunk on the finest quality wine and found the best prostitutes in town, who charged three drachms.⁶

In the morning, after squandering their money, Mikion and Aristion were happy, though slightly hung over. Suddenly, Mikion realized a fact that he hadn't thought about since they found the tetradrachms. "We're being sent to Sicily tomorrow morning!" he exclaimed.

"Oh no," answered Aristion. "We'll be paid only one drachm per day in the navy. And when the war ends that's going to drop to two obols!"

"Don't worry; we still have ten tetradrachms left."

"But what good will they do us in the navy?"

"None, but we can use them when we get out."

"So we need to hide them, don't we?"

"Absolutely," answered Mikion. "We'll just bury them."

"Of course." So Mikion and Aristion buried the ten remaining tetradrachms in a jar, being careful to remember the exact location of the cache in relation to nearby landmarks. Unfortunately, the expedition to Sicily that Mikion and Aristion joined was completely crushed. The two never returned, and their coins remained buried for over four centuries.⁷

DENOMINATIONS OF ATHENIAN SILVER COINS^{8,9}

Denomination	Weight in Grams	Expressed in Drachms
Decadrachm	43.66	10
Tetradrachm	17.44	4
Didrachm	8.72	2
Drachm	4.36	1
Pentobolon	3.63	5/6
Tetrobolon	2.90	2/3
Tribolon (Hemidrachm)	2.18	1/2
Diobolon	1.45	1/3
Trihemiobolion	1.09	1/4
Obolos	0.72	1/6
Tritemoriion (or Tritartemorion)	0.54	1/8
Hemiobolion	0.36	1/12
Trihemitetartemorion	0.27	1/16
Tetartemorion	0.18	1/24
Hemitetartemorion	0.09	1/48

Publius Considius put a bag of scrap silver on the table. "I need to exchange this for Roman money," he said. The money changer opened the bag and saw a mixed group of silver objects, including ten large foreign coins depicting the head of Athena and an owl, with the inscription "AΘE."

"What are these?"

"Some Greek gave them to me. He said he found them in an old jar after it rained one day in Athens."

Putting a deep gouge into each of the tetradrachms with a chisel, the money changer satisfied himself that the coins were solid silver, and paid Considius four denarii for each of the coins, plus fifteen denarii for the rest of his silver.¹⁰ Considius was a Roman merchant who had acquired the tetradrachms from a Greek trader. He was happy to get

such a good price for them; he had been afraid that they wouldn't be accepted as pure silver. As it was, they brought almost their full weight in coined silver. As he walked down the street, he listened to the coins jingle in his money bag. He was doing well. When he reached his home, he emptied his bag on a table and counted his money. His assets included one gold aureus, sixty-two silver denarii, four orichalcum (or brass) sestertii, two orichalcum dupondii, and a copper as. He smiled at the lack of small change and the abundance of the higher-denomination coins. "It would take a laborer a month to earn that aureus," he thought. The aureus was worth twenty-five silver denarii, which weren't small change themselves.

That day, one of Considius' younger sons, Sextus, was leaving home to join the second legion. Considius gave him a parting gift of the aureus — a very generous gesture. After saying goodbye to his parents, Sextus Considius departed with his aureus to seek his fortune in the army.

The younger Considius, on his way to join the second legion, became rather hungry and entered a nearby *caupona* (restaurant/tavern). The menu was posted on the wall, and Considius saw that he could eat a cheap lunch for only one as. But because his aureus was worth four hundred asses, he decided that a cheap lunch was completely out of the question. Instead, Considius would have a sextarius (about a pint) of the best wine, a bowl of soup, and a portion of roasted meat (still not common in the diet due to its expense), all for five asses.¹¹ Three of Considius' friends soon walked in, and Considius, in his newly-found generosity, bought them all lunch. The merry group then drank several more pints of wine, until a young, pretty prostitute caught Considius' eye and set him back an additional eight asses.¹²

After his going-away party, Considius saw that from his original aureus, he still had twenty-three denarii (each worth sixteen asses), and one sestertius (worth four asses). One of the denarii had the word "CONSIDI" written on it; Considius felt proud to have his name on a coin.¹³ Looking at his large brass sestertius, he saw the portrait of his new emperor, Claudius. It was rumored that Claudius planned to attack Britannia soon.¹⁴ "The second legion is supposed to be going to Britannia," commented one of Considius' friends.

"Then we'll subjugate those barbarians!" replied Considius enthusiastically, as he marched out of the *caupona* and off to the second legion.

"You had better bury those coins somewhere safe," called his friend after him.

"No," thought Considius, "I'll just hand on to them. It's fun to have money!"

So Considius joined the second legion, commanded by Titus Flavius Vespasianus, and was quickly dispatched to Britannia to assist in Claudius' conquest of that island. Though the campaign was a success, Considius was unfortunately killed in the first battle that the second legion undertook in Britannia, and an enemy soldier made off with Considius' bag of money, which he promptly buried in a safe place.

DENOMINATIONS OF ROMAN COIN, EARLY EMPIRE		
Denomination	Metal	Expressed in Denarii
Aureus	Gold	25
Quinarius	Gold	12.5
Denarius	Silver	1
Quinarius	Silver	1/2
Sestertius	Orichalcum (Brass)	1/4
Dupondius	Orichalcum	1/8
As	Copper	1/16
Semis	Copper	1/32
Quadrans	Copper	1/64

A tired agriculture worker, Henry Birch plowed the field he had worked on as long as he could remember. Quite uneducated, Henry was unconcerned with the affairs of the time. Nearly thirteen centuries had passed since the second legion had invaded his island; in fact, Henry was unaware that there had even been a second legion, or a Roman Empire, for that matter. His main concern was simply producing enough food for his family. As Henry was working, he noticed something shiny in the freshly-turned soil. As he picked the shiny object up, Henry noticed that it was silver. “Could this be a coin of some sort?” thought Henry. Digging further, Henry found twenty-two more similar silver objects, and one large, corroded brass disc which he quickly discarded.¹⁵ The coins Henry found looked like nothing he had ever seen. They were similar in size to silver pennies, but they were thicker and bore strange designs. Henry, wondering what he had found, took the coins to his overseer. Henry was paid one penny for each of the denarii, and the denarii were sent to the mint to be recoined.¹⁶

“Twenty-three pence!” Henry said to himself as he happily walked home. “That’s twenty-three days of work!” Henry bought a chicken for 1½ pence. He then used his halfpenny to buy nine pounds of wheat.¹⁷ Henry’s family ate well for two months thanks to his lucky find. Henry had never had so much money at one time in all his life, and he never would again. After his hoard was exhausted, Henry returned to the hard uneventful life of a medieval peasant.

DENOMINATIONS OF COMMON ENGLISH COINS UNDER EDWARD III (1327-77)		
Denomination	Metal	Value in Pence
Noble	Gold	80
Half Noble	Gold	40
Quarter Noble	Gold	20
Groat	Silver	4
Halfgroat	Silver	2
Penny	Silver	1
Halfpenny	Silver	1/2
Farthing	Silver	1/4

Scott Rottinghaus, a young numismatist from Kansas, sat at a dealer’s table at a major coin show. He was drooling over an attractive Athenian tetradrachm from the fifth century B.C. The coin was far from the best he’d ever seen, but this one was close to his price range. “So how much do you need for this?” asked Scott.

“Four hundred.”
“Four hundred? Yikes! Two-fifty.”
“Get real.”
“Okay. Three.”
“Still can’t do it,” replied the dealer, examining the coin carefully. “I could go three-fifty, but that’s it.”

Fully aware that the coin’s retail price should be about \$350, Scott declined the offer, put the coin down, and began to look at another one. But if Scott would have compared himself to a peacetime Athenian sailor who would have worked twelve days to earn that coin, he might not have been so fast to put it down. Or at least he would have considered himself fortunate to have the opportunity to purchase a 2400-year-old coin for less in term of daily wages than its issue price.

Scott’s next stop was at a dealer who displayed a nice selection of medieval coins. Picking out an average penny of Edward I (1272-1307), he looked at the thin, crudely

manufactured piece and thought of the backward times in which it was issued. "What's the price on this penny?" he asked.

"Forty."

Scott pulled out a catalog and saw the coin listed at £12. "Fifteen," he replied.

"Where'd you come from, the dark ages?"

"Well, forty's pretty outrageous, don't you think?"

"Then make me a reasonable offer."

"How about twenty?" Scott retorted.

"Twenty-five."

"Nope," answered Scott, quickly converting £12 to dollars in his head and coming up short, and turning down a coin that took an average person a day of hard labor to earn when it was new. Scott, being familiar with medieval English coins, was familiar with this fact, but he knew he could easily get the coin for twenty dollars elsewhere.

Greeting an ancient coin dealer with whom he was acquainted, Scott began to look through a nice selection of Roman silver coins, as was his usual habit. After looking through several, Scott saw a piece he needed that was marked at \$50. But he knew what it was worth.

"Forty dollars," Scott said, handing over the coin.

"All right."

Scott happily wrote a check and walked away with a nice Roman Republican denarius. "I'd be doing well to earn this in a day," Scott thought as he looked at the coin. "I wonder what things I could have bought with it in ancient Rome. And where has this coin been? What has it seen? What has it been through?" Scott thought, thinking the usual numismatist with visions of Romans flashing through his mind.

NOTES

¹The Peloponnesian War lasted from April 4, 431 B.C. to April 25, 404 B.C.

²Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, vi. 31.

³See the table of Athenian money.

⁴Gary Waddington, "Literary Sources Reveal Buying Power of the Drachm," *The Best of the Celator* 1989, (Lodi, WI: Clio's Cabinet, 1989), pp. 44-46.

⁵N.K. Rutter, *Greek Coinage* (Aylesbury, Bucks, United Kingdom: Shire Publications Ltd., 1983), pp. 33-34.

⁶*Ibid.*

⁷Thucydides vii. 1-87.

⁸Rutter, p. 32.

⁹When measuring large sums of money, the *talent* was employed. In Athens, a talent of silver was equal to 6,000 drachms. It cost one talent to operate one ship for one month during the Peloponnesian War. Hundreds of talents were drained from the Athenian Treasury to finance the Sicilian expedition. The private expenses of those serving in the expedition were also immense (Thucydides vi. 8, 31, 62, 94-95, vii. 16.). Wars have always been expensive undertakings.

¹⁰See the table of Roman money.

¹¹Marvin Tameanko, "Coins of Pompeii Provide Clues to Daily Roman Life," *The Best of The Celator* 1990 (Lodi, WI: Clio's Cabinet, 1990), pp. 24-27.

¹²Romans often combined the functions of a restaurant, a bar, a hotel, and a brothel in one establishment. (*Ibid.*).

¹³Moneyors under the Roman Republic often placed their names on coins. Monetary magistrates of the years 57 and 46 B.C. belonged to the Considia gens; hence the appearance of that name. Coins in the ancient world circulated much longer than coins today do. Although this story takes place early in the reign of Claudius (A.D. 41-54), Considius would have almost certainly been

carrying some Republican coins. Archeological evidence suggests that some coins up to two hundred years old would have been in circulation at that time.

¹⁴Britannia was the Roman name for Britain.

¹⁵The currency in England in the middle ages consisted only of silver. Henry probably wouldn't have recognized the sesterius as money.

¹⁶The silver penny (plural "pence," symbol "d," from denarius) was the main coin in the British monetary system for centuries. After being the only denomination struck in Britain for several hundred years, by 1300 the penny was supplemented by the groat (4d.), the halfpenny, and farthing (1/4d.). Before this, the penny was simply cut into pieces to make change. The monetary system was expanded under Edward III (1327-77) to include a wider variety of denominations, including gold (see the table). Copper wasn't introduced as official currency until the reign of James I (1603-25).

¹⁷H.A. Seaby, *Standard Catalogue of British Coins, Volume I: Coins of England and the United Kingdom*, ed. Peter Seaby and P. Frank Purvey (17th ed.; London: Seaby, 1979), p. vi.

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**Would you like to
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Karen Jach

P.O. Box 21766, Milwaukee, WI 53221

Glass Coin Weights

By Robert R. Kutcher

The science of metrology has always been an integral part of numismatics. However, the modern collector usually has little knowledge of, nor any real need for this associate science of numismatics. Indeed, how many collectors or numismatists today have the precision instruments that are necessary for the very delicate and precise measuring and weighing of coins?

While it is true that the collectors of the ancient and medieval coins have always been somewhat more cognizant of the need for the knowledge of metrology, the average hobbyist is not. It is also true that the ancient and medieval merchants were more concerned with the weights of the coins than are their modern counterparts. In fact, some of the ancient and medieval governments even issued or sold coin weights so that the people could check the weights of the coins that they were using in their daily businesses.

The need for coin weights was really twofold. First, there was the need to check the weight of the coins as they come from the mints for under and over weight coins, as well as for debased coins.

Secondly, there was the need to check for clipped coins that were in circulation. The practice of clipping small pieces of gold and silver from the edges of coins had been common from the very earliest time of coinage.

At times this practice was so prevalent and the coins were so underweight that none were accepted at face value, but were weighed out to the specified price. In some areas there was no attempt to even make coins of a standard weight as they were all weighed in the transactions anyway. The small medieval coins of India are a good example of this practice.

Today, the collecting of old coin balances and their weights, as well as the coin weights, is becoming a very popular side line of our numismatic hobby. As might be expected, these old instruments are sometimes rather costly, but a few of the weights are relatively inexpensive. The coin weights too, are more plentiful and they are also somewhat less expensive, as they were made of a variety of materials, metal, stone, ceramic and even glass.

According to the Arab tradition it was during the reign of the Umayyad Caliph Abd al-Malik (65-89 A.H. 686-709 A.C.E.) that the advice was given, and presumably acted upon, to issue weights (sanajat) of glass (qawarir) for the purpose of testing coins. It was their idea that the glass would not be susceptible to alteration either by adding to it or by deducting from it without the alteration being easily detected. These glass weights did enable the merchants and the money changers to establish with remarkable accuracy as to whether their coins were up to standard.

The Arab historians were, however, incorrect in their accounts that implied that the glass coin weights were an Umayyad invention. The Byzantines and even the Romans had used coin weights, some of which were also glass, years before. It is more likely that the association of Caliph Abd al-Malik with his coinage reform act that had been assimilated into the Arab traditions as the introduction of the glass weights. We also know from the evidence of some of the glass weights themselves that the coin weights were being manufactured in Egypt with the names of the governors who authorized them, much before 700 A.C.E.

These Arab glass coin weights were issued in denominations of the Dinar, one half Dinar, one third Dinar, and one Dirham. There are also various multiples of these denominations known to exist. The legal weight of the Caliph Abd al-Malik reformed

Dinar 4.25 grams. The surviving glass specimens of the Umayyad and early Abbasid periods weigh between 4.22 and 4.28 grams, while the specimens from al-Mahdi and Harun al-Rashid periods fall off to only 4.10 to 4.20 grams. The fractional pieces are very similar in weights to the Dinar standards. However, if calculations for the weights of the Dirham is based on what is written by the Arab historians, the legal weight of the reformed Dirham should be 2.97 grams.

Actually the coin specimens of the Umayyad and early Abbasid period fall between 2.70 and 2.90 grams, while the glass coin weights are closer to the estimated legal figures. The glass coin weights from two museum collections of this period fall between 2.83 and 2.98 grams.

The manufacturing process for these early glass coin weights has been scientifically reconstructed by the careful study of them and by the qualitative and quantitative analyses of a number of different samples and sample fragments. These analyses were performed by several modern glass research laboratories that are a part of large commercial glass manufacturing and fabrication companies, both here and abroad.

The general scope of this research work consisted of the following: appearance, such as color, weathering, seeds and stones (small bubbles in glass are called seeds and stones are the bits of sand that have not completely melted); fabrication, the techniques of manufacture, melting and working temperatures; physical measurements, index of refraction, specific gravity and the annealing of the glass; chemical analyses, its composition, batch materials, formulas and comparative analyses; and lastly, cultural considerations.

The technique of glass coin weight manufacture was found to be rather simple. A button of molten glass was poured from a small crucible or ladle, or the exact size, onto a hot flat iron plate. A hot iron die was then carefully centered over the glob of glass and presses against the disk of glass to produce the inscription. Iron scale in the form of minute flakes occurs on the flat surfaces of the coin weights, which indicates its close contact with iron. Hot glass will stick to cold iron, somewhat like a warm hand will stick to a very cold piece of metal in the winter. To keep this from happening, the flat iron plate and the iron die needed to be kept hot in this manufacturing process. The heating of the iron also helped to form the iron scale that is found on the weights.

As the total process was relatively quick and cheap, large quantities could be produced daily. Any of the new weights that varied greatly from the standard would easily be remelted and reshaped. Even today it is very impressive to watch a skilled glassworker gather exactly the right amount of soft glass to form the exact same ornament, one after the other. This precision can also be seen in the modern optical glass manufacture, where an operator must shear off exactly the right amount of soft glass from a cylinder that he has been shaping in a flame and then precisely fill a mold in which the glass is pressed. Thus, there is no reason why that earlier glass worker could not have attained the same exacting skill, particularly if using a small ladle that held exactly the right amount of molten glass.

The seeds and stones in the glass weights gave a good indication as to the temperatures in the preparation of the glass, and to some extent, the materials used in the mix. As a batch of glass begins to decompose and melt as the heat intensifies, some of the materials in the mix will give off gases which are then trapped by the heavy fluid glass. If the firing temperature is raised further, the glass becomes more fluid and the seeds can escape. Also with the higher temperatures and stirring, the stone or sand grains will more easily go into solution.

One of the observations from this study about the seventh century culture was the glass itself. The use of glass as a material for these weights was certainly a distinct technological advance. Before that time, glass was a luxury item, as it was costly to produce and to fabricate because of the fuel and the technology. Also, glass had been

used for rather thin fabrication and not wasted on thick globs like these coin weights. But by that time it seems that glass was much less expensive than the metal, stone or ceramic, at least for these coin weights. It also seems that glass had at least reached a degree of commonness in everyday usage that had not been possible before.

For further reading refer to:

Catalogue of Arabic Glass Weights in the British Museum by Stanley Lane-Poole.

Glass Stamps and Weights Illustrated from the Egyptian Collection in University College, London by Sir Flinders Petrie.

Early Arabic Glass Weights and Stamps by George C. Miles.



Al-Qasim b. Ubaydullah
Finance Director 116-124 A.H.
734-742 A.C.E.

One Dinar

In the name of Allah. Ordered al-Qasim
bin Ubaydullah, weight of Dinar, full
weight.

green 28.5 mm 4.24 grams



Qurrah b. Sharik
Governor 90-96 A.H.
709-714 A.C.E.

One-half Dinar

Ordered the Amir Qurrah, weight of
one-half.

pale green 22 mm 2.11 grams



Hayyan b. Shurayh
Finance Director 99-101 A.H.
717-120 A.C.E.

One-third Dinar

Of what ordered Ubaydullah ibn al-
Habhab. Weight of one-third full
weight.

pale green 20 mm 1.43 grams



Isa b. abi-Ata
Finance Director 125-127 A.H.
743-745 A.C.E.

One Dirhem

In the name of Allah. Commanded Allah
honesty, and ordered Isa b. abi-Ata the
making of it, weight of dirhem, at the
hands of Yazid b. abi-Yazid.

green 25 mm 2.77 grams

ICTA — Not for Dealers Only!

Diane Piret

American humorist Will Rogers once said, “This country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of a hammer.”

His comment may be humorous, but the sentiment is definitely not funny. Especially when we recognize that we laugh only because **it’s true**.

Although we have the right to speak up and give Congress our two cents, most often we don’t exercise that right, falling prey to our own negative “can’t fight City Hall” thinking. Even worse, we don’t “want to get involved.” Or, the most shameful, we “can’t be bothered.”

In the short time I’ve been on staff at ICTA, I’ve seen firsthand that contacting your Senator or Representative really can make a difference. While you may agree or disagree with your officials about some issues, they are just people like you and me who put their pants (or pantyhose) on one leg at a time. You **can** talk to them. They even listen. And, even more surprising, they **do** want to hear from their constituents (a fancy word for voters). After all, whether they’ll have a job after the next election is going to be **up to you**.

Emboldened by positive results with my legislators on the Federal level, I became involved with an issue on the local level that had been of concern but . . . well, you know how it is — I’d sort of been waiting for the other guy to do it. Well, he wasn’t doing anything and if I really wanted the problem to be fixed, I was going to have to get involved myself.

As I write this, the announcement that the problem **is** going to be fixed, is less than 24 hours old. It’s really true — **you CAN fight City Hall**. It can be frustrating — I’ve learned not to expect results overnight. It takes a lot of time and effort and even then there’s no guarantee that you’ll win (although it helps a lot if you happen to be right).

Most businesses and other large groups sharing a common goal have recognized this for some time and that’s where lobbying groups originated. Organizations like the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the AARP. These lobbying groups work for us to express our needs and desires to legislators so we can put in our two cents worth without having to expend much of the actual effort personally. Also, the old adage about there being strength in numbers is also true — much of a lobby organization’s effectiveness is derived by the sheer number of voters it represents.

ICTA is the lobbying organization for our coin and precious metals industry. Many people object to calling the coin business an “industry”, insisting that we’re only a hobby. And the collecting of coins **is** a hobby. But the dealer (from whom the collector buys his coins) who derives his livelihood from this hobby is in **business** — the coin business. The people who put on the coin shows (where collectors can buy, trade and sell coins as well as be treated to a number of educational opportunities) are also in the coin **business**. And, like it or not, the collector is a vital part of that business because without the ultimate consumer, there **is** no business.

Laws and regulations that hurt the dealers and other professionals will also hurt each and every collector. One example is the state sales tax. You, the collector, may avoid your state’s sales tax by ordering merchandise from out of state. What you may not know is that you now may have a tax liability for “use tax” in your home state. Where information exchange agreements exist between states (and the Central States area is under one of these agreements known as the “Great Lakes Pact”), customers have been contacted by their state sales tax agency demanding payment of that tax (usually the same percentage as the sales tax) **plus penalties and interest**.

ICTA, working with your local dealers, achieved an **exemption** from sales taxes in Illinois and Ohio on numismatic and bullion items. The power of **your** lobbying organization, combined with individual dealer/constituent efforts, made it happen. It wasn't cheap — lobbying requires attorneys, the lobbyists fees, and many other expenses such as telephone, and postage to name a few.

Since ICTA has been primarily supported by dues and donations from coin and precious metals dealers, most collectors and investors don't recognize that ICTA's legislative and regulatory efforts and accomplishments have also been for their benefit. Few collectors are aware that when the U.S. Postal Service rates were increased from 25¢ to 29¢ for first class mail, there was no increase in rates for Registered and Insured mail services because ICTA had challenged those increases and prevented their implementation.

Unfortunately, laws, regulations and other governmental actions that affect our hobby and business have only been increasing. At the same time, poor market conditions have made it impossible for dealers to even maintain the same financial support levels much less increase donations and dues to help with the greater number of issues that must be addressed. CSNS has been one of the numismatic organizations that has helped ICTA's efforts with much needed financial and moral support.

Recently, the IRS has specifically **targeted** coin businesses on money laundering regulations, and ICTA is working to have these regulations modified. In addition, under some IRS agents' interpretation of "broker reporting" laws, your dealer must ask you for your name, address, telephone number, social security number, etc. and file an IRS form if you sell him/her as little as one silver Roosevelt dime for its silver content — clearly not the intent of these regulations. ICTA's primary legislative goal is to get two bills (HR and S200) passed that would eliminate this harassing (and expensive) enforcement of these regulations.

We are also working in coalition with the Direct Marketing Association which is providing an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on a case that Court recently agreed to hear involving **interstate collection** of sales taxes.

Whether you call it an industry or a hobby, we all need to "circle our wagons" to fend off these "ambushes." There is nothing more frustrating than to see the arrows headed our way and all we can financially afford to do is watch or, at best, be able to issue a warning when, with some ammunition for the "guns," we could have fought back.

Your personal donation to ICTA will make an important difference!

For as little as a \$25 donation to ICTA, you will receive a free on year subscription to the ICTA newsletter, *The Washington Wire*. For a donation of \$100 or more you will also receive a handsome Certificate of Membership (Associate), suitable for framing. Dealer memberships start at \$250 per year (\$62.50 per quarter).

Send your donation to: ICTA, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E., Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20003. For additional information, you can contact me at ICTA or call me at 504/682-6818. If you think individuals can't make a big enough difference, remember:

For want of a nail, the shoe was lost.
For want of a shoe, the horse was lost.
For want of a horse, the rider was lost.
For want of a rider, the battle was lost.
For want of a battle, the war was lost.
And all for the want of a two-penny nail.

CSNS 1991 Fort Wayne, Indiana Fall Convention Exhibit Award Winners

Exhibit Chairman George Fitzgerald reported that 18 exhibits were displayed at the CSNS Fall Convention in Fort Wayne.

The "Best of Show" award was presented to Larry White of Liberty Center, Ohio, for his exhibit "\$100 Gold Commemorative Coins of Canada."

The second place award was presented to Bill Charlton of North Webster for "Love Tokens — A Type Collection."

The junior "Best of Show" was awarded to Jim Savage of Muncie for his exhibit showing chemical tests on Lincoln cents.

Young Numismatists of America

The Autumn/Winter, 1991 issue of *Young Numismatist Digest* has been published by Young Numismatists of America (YNA). The issue features an article on the 1794 Starred Reverse Large Cent by John Kraljevish, Jr. Also included are articles on Half Dimes by Chris Shappell and Minting Varieties by Vicken Yegparian.

The Autumn/Winter issue includes biographies of the candidates in the upcoming YNA election for the 1992-94 term. Twelve candidates are seeking six offices, led by YNA Vice-President Scott Rottinghaus who is unopposed for the Presidency.

YNA is a national club, run by Young Numismatists, dedicated to helping Young Numismatists across the country. The club, founded this past March, recently surpassed the 100 member mark. Dues are \$6.00 for Young Numismatists (under age 21) and \$6.50 for adults. Single issue copies of *Young Numismatic Digest* are available for \$2.00.

To receive further information on YNA, a membership application, or to purchase a copy of *Young Numismatist Digest*, write to: Young Numismatists of America, 8 Iroquois Trail, Monsey, NY 10952.

Central States Numismatic Society 53rd Anniversary Convention

Minneapolis Minnesota

May 1, 2, and 3, 1992

PNG Day — Thursday, April 30, 1992

Club News

JOHNSON COUNTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Bob Martin, Secretary/Treasurer of the Johnson County Numismatic Society, Lenexa, Kansas, announced that the club raised \$565 for the Salvation Army during its holiday meeting on December 19, 1992. The club conducted a white elephant auction where members provided gift wrapped numismatic items to be auctioned. The members then bid on the packages without knowing the contents. A food in-gathering was also conducted at the meeting for the benefit of the Salvation Army.

INDIANA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

A combination souvenir note and flier promotes the 1992 Indiana State Numismatic Association Convention.

The notes are being offered in multiples of 100 to dealers and ISNA members at a cost of \$10 plus \$1 postage.

The notes, dubbed "Collector Currency," have no cash value. They advertise the May 29-31 state convention and have space on the lower reverse to list the sponsoring dealer, club or individual.

The specimens shown above are about three-fourths the actual size of the note, which measure 6" x 2 3/4 ". The notes are printed on green paper.

Orders may be placed with Jerry Lebo, P.O. Box 44337, Indianapolis, IN 46204.



DEARBORN COIN CLUB

The Dearborn Coin Club has elected the following as officers for 1992:

Bob Hatfield, President; Paul Getenberg, Vice President; Helen Sedo, Secretary; John Jaynes, Treasurer; Larry Susalla, Sgt.-At-Arms; Jo Salvetti, Board Member; Gene Collister, Board Member; Janet Keeths, Board Member; Ken VanVliet, Past President.

Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday, September through June, at the Dearborn Civic Center, which is located near Michigan Avenue and Greenfield. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Dearborn Coin Club is now in its 32nd year and holds a membership in ANA, MSNS and CSNS. Dues are \$5 per year for adults, with a "one-time" initiation fee of \$3; junior membership is \$1 with no initiation fee.

CHICAGO COIN CLUB

For the sixth consecutive year, the Chicago Coin Club will distribute a complimentary numismatic souvenir at the Chicago International Coin Fair.

Everyone, members and non-members, attending the club meeting at the CICF, will receive an example of Axe Money "Good For" \$5 in trade. It can be kept as a souvenir, used toward the purchase of club medals and books, or toward membership dues. The

club be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, March 21, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 151 E. Wacker Drive in Downtown Chicago.

These unique pieces are shaped like miniature axe heads and are made of copper. Measuring about 2" x 2½", they are reminiscent of the copper axes used in trade by the Mayan Indians at the time of Columbus' voyage to America. In the tradition of promoting numismatic education, each piece of Axe Money is accompanied by a printed copy of *Native American Copper Axe Money*, a comprehensive history of this unusual numismatic subject.

It was written especially for this project by club member Robert D. Leonard.

Production has been limited to 250 pieces and each educational card is consecutively numbered. Following the complimentary distribution at the meeting, the remaining pieces will be sold for \$5, \$6 by mail. Checks should be made payable to: Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

This souvenir has become a popular tradition at the CICF. In previous years, the club issued other primitive money pieces and published their respective histories. Leather money, plate money and stone money were all received by those attending past meetings. All are now sold out, and club officials warn anyone who is interested, not to delay in ordering.

Call Carl F. Wolf, 312/454-9696 with any questions.



Would You Like To Submit An Article To *The Centinel*?

The Central States Numismatic Society welcomes articles related broadly to numismatic themes. All of the material contributed will be entered in competition for the Elston Bradfield Literary Award for the best article to appear in *The Centinel*.

Articles from contributors less than 18 years old are entered in competition for the Daniel Parker Literary Award.

Articles should contain accurate information and clear photos or drawings to help illustrate your subject.

In addition, authors are compensated at a rate of roughly five dollars per 100 words.

If you have a piece you'd like to submit for possible publication, contact the editor — Karen Jach, P.O. Box 21766, Milwaukee, WI 53221, phone 414/281-4687.

Indiana State Numismatic Association

***34th Annual* Convention & Coin Show**

May 29-31, 1992

**Indiana Convention Center
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Larry Bilbee
P.O. Box 24282
Indianapolis, IN 46224
317/291-5008

Exhibits:

Frank Russell
6815 Shalimar Court
Indianapolis, IN 46214
317/244-5466

Show Calendar

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 24 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through December, 1993. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of the show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to Karen Jach, P.O. Box 21766, Milwaukee, WI 53221.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 3-5, 1992

South Shore Coin Club hosts the 32nd Annual Numismatists of Wisconsin Convention. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn. Robert Krueger, Bob's OK Coins, 3058 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53215. Phone 414/643-5775.

LANSING, MICHIGAN — APRIL 10-12, 1992

Michigan State Numismatic Society 36th Annual Spring Convention hosted by the Lansing Coin Club and the Livingston County Coin Club. Holiday Inn South, Convention Center, 6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing, MI. MSNS, P.O. Box 16231, Lansing, MI 48901.

FREMONT, NEBRASKA — APRIL 25-26, 1992

Nebraska Numismatic Association 37th Annual Convention, hosted by Fremont Coin Club, Inc. Fremont City Auditorium, Fremont, NE. Boyd Mattox, 2064 E. 3rd St., Fremont, NE 68025. Phone evenings 402/721-0269.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA — APRIL 30-MAY 3, 1992

Central States Numismatic Society's 53rd Anniversary Convention, hosted by Northwest Coin Club. Dick Grinolds, P.O. Box 18002, Minneapolis, MN 55418. Phone 612/331-8246.

OSKALOOSA, IOWA — MAY 9-10, 1992

Oskaloosa-Southern Iowa Coin Club Show, Penn Central Mall, 200 High West, Oskaloosa, IA. Gail McKee, P.O. Box 11, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Phone 515/672-2763.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — MAY 29-31, 1992

Indiana State Numismatic Association Convention hosted by Indianapolis Coin Club. Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN. Larry Bilgee, P.O. Box 24282, Indianapolis, IN 46224. Phone 317/291-5008.

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA — JUNE 12-14, 1992

South Dakota 41st Annual Coin Convention hosted by the Capital City Coin Club of Bismarck, ND. Doublewood Best Western Inn (Ex. 36 & I-94). L.P. Schnider, Box 364, Bismarck, ND 58502.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 24-26, 1992

Mid America Coin Convention, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn. Kevin Foley, P.O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Phone 414/282-2388.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — SEPTEMBER 5-6, 1992

ATCO 10th Annual National Token and Medal Show hosted by the Omaha Coin Club. Holiday Inn's Ford Hall, I-80 & 72nd Street, Omaha, NE. Steven Drake, P.O. Box 1003, Omaha, NE 68101-1003. Phone 402/571-5421.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS — SEPTEMBER 11-13, 1992

Illinois Numismatic Association Coin Convention, Continental Regency Hotel, 500 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria, IL. Joe DeModica, P.O. Box 501, Cary, IL 60013. Phone 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 815/447-1395.

CINCINNATI, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 18-20, 1992

Central States Numismatic Society's Fall Convention, Drawbridge Convention Center, I-75 Exit #186, between Cincinnati and the airport, Cincinnati, OH. Paul Padgett, 7126 W. Wyoming Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45215. Phone 513/821-2143.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — SEPTEMBER 25-27, 1992

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 58th Anniversary Show. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn, Robert Rehfeld, 3236 N. 104th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53226. Phone 414/774-0601 or 414/541-7028.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — OCTOBER 3-4, 1992

Omaha Coin Club 32nd Annual Show. Western Heritage Museum, 801 S. 10th St., Omaha, NE. Ralph Reeves, 1027 S. 90th St., Omaha, NE 68114.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — OCTOBER 9-11, 1992

Kentucky State Numismatic Association's 32nd Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Kentucky State Numismatic Association and Louisville Coin Club. Harry Tileston, P.O. Box 43744, Louisville, KY 40253-0744. Phone 502/244-2555.

SALINA, KANSAS — OCTOBER 10-11, 1992

Salina Coin Club, VFW, 1108 West Crawford, Salina, KS. Contact Salina Coin Club, Box 1111, Salina, KS 67402. Phone 913/827-9766 or 913/827-2024.

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI — OCTOBER 23-25, 1992

Greater Kansas City 5th Semi-Annual U.S. & World Coin and Paper Money Show, Holiday Inn, Kansas City International Airport, Intersection I-29 & I-435 East, Kansas City, MO. Walt Johnson, 7327 Reeds Road, Overland Park, KS 66204. Phone 913/432-4525

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 8, 1992

Dearborn Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Al Mata Hall, Oakman Blvd., north of Michigan Ave., Dearborn, MI. Helen Sedo, P.O. Box 891, Dearborn, MI 48121.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 27-29, 1992

Michigan State Numismatic Society Fall Convention hosted by the Northwest Detroit Coin Club and Royal Oak Coin Club. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dearborn, MI. MSNS, P.O. Box 2014, Livonia, MI 48154.

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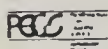
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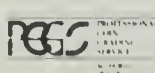
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1939	925.+	Common P-mint 300.+	IND 230.+
1940	750.+	1921 225.+	\$5 LIB 195.+
1941	725.+	Common Peace 225.+	IND 345.+
1942	725.+		\$10 LIB 250.+
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1950	425.+		
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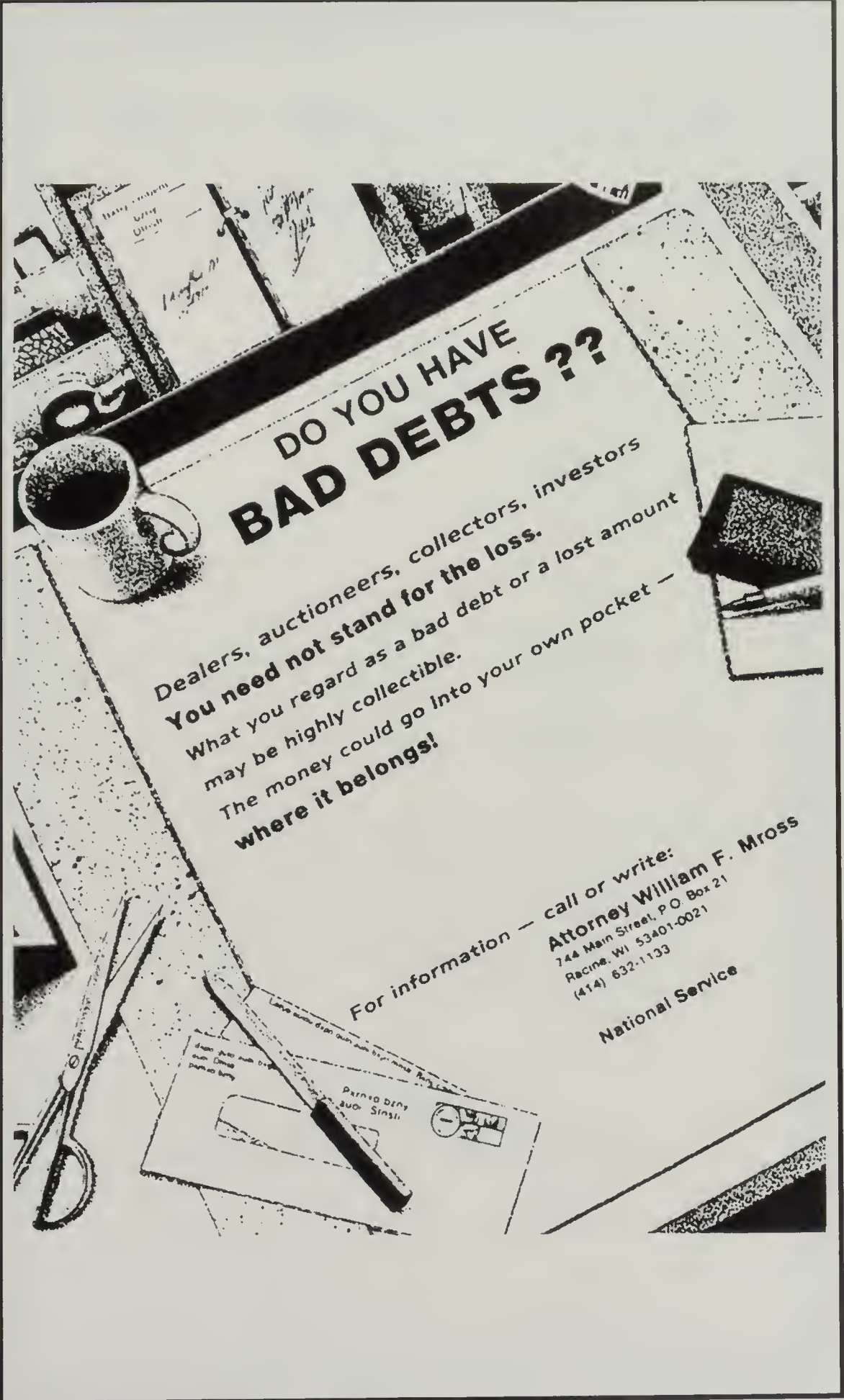
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R.E. (Bob) Douglas
58 Devonwood Ave. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

NOTE: The Society year begins on March 1st of each year.

(for use of secretary only)

Received _____ No. _____



Central States Numismatic Society Contacts



*Have a problem or question with your Central States
Numismatic Society Membership?*

Here's who to contact to resolve the matter:

Area of Concern:

Person to Contact:

General questions, complaints and
suggestions

Marjorie Hendershott
P.O. Box 7107
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Convention Coordinator

Leonard M. Owen
684 N. 59th St.
Omaha, NE 68132

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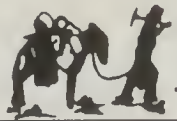
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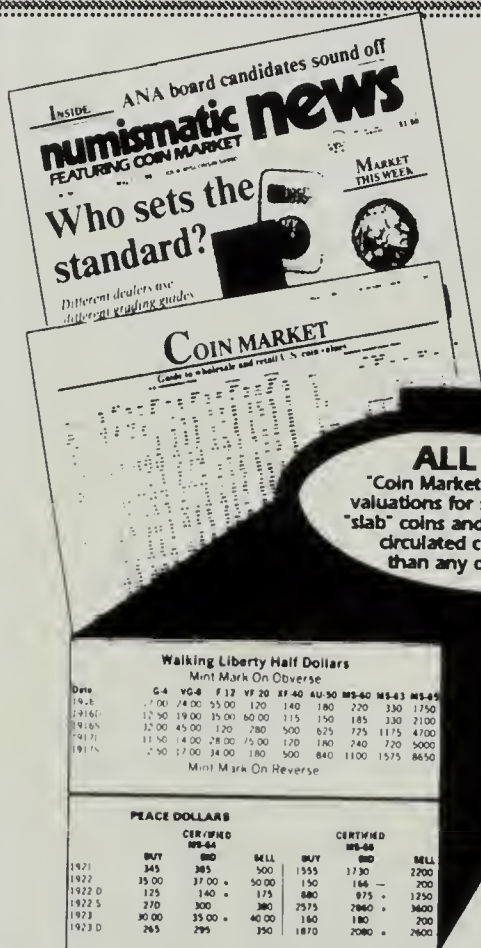
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